

Abstract

A method for retrieving critical data that is determined to very likely be requested by a host device in the near future and storing it in FLASH. The hard drive provides the critical data to the requesting host upon receiving the request, thereby eliminating the time required to respond to the request due to media accessing. The critical data may be related to power-on of the computer, such as boot sector FAT system data. The critical data maybe re-allocated and placed in sequential order, thereby saving time from seeking to different locations over the media. Critical data may stored in FLASH memory, providing quicker data access while consuming less power. While the hard drive is in low power states, other data can be written to FLASH in order to conserve energy.